

Annual Report  
of the Romsey Urban District  
for 1896

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To

The Romsey Urban Sanitary Authority

Gentlemen,

The Mortality in the Romsey Urban District was the lowest on record. 41 deaths only having been registered - 18 Male and female :- nearly half of the death took place in the first quarter. In September, no death was registered, and only 6 during the last quarter, - an unprecedentedly low number. only 3 deaths were recorded, under 5 years of age, during the second half of the year!

Of the 41 deaths, 8 were under one year of age, being at the rate  $68\frac{3}{4}$  (68'9) per 1000 registered births. Not one of these deaths - so far as known - was that of an illegitimate child. Five other deaths occurred between one year and five years of age.

Diarrhoea was rather prevalent in August but no death was recorded as resulting from it throughout the year

Scarlet Fever - of this Exanthem. mild isolated cases occurred in one family in May - in two families in September. and one in one family and two in another in December - the origin of these attacks could not be traced - they did not appear to be in any way related to one another, and in no instance did the disease spread.



Diphtheria. a fatal case of this disease occurred in a child aged 6 years. at a Farmstead in the outskirts of the Town - no other case was notified throughout the year: the local surroundings presented nothing abnormal in a sanitary point of view.

Enteric Fever - no case of this disease was notified during the year.

Whooping-Cough. This Complaint was Epidemic in the district throughout the first quarter. dying out in April. 6 cases proved fatal.

The whole district was remarkably free from serious disease, throughout the year - and the mortality was - so far as my knowledge extends - without parallel in its lowness - and with the exception of the solitary case of Diphtheria - and the few mild instances of Scarlet-Fever - there is really nothing to record - and nothing in a sanitary point of view - could be more satisfactory than the Condition of the Town during the last quarter

The Effluent stream from the sewage tank in the Broadlands Park - was very offensive in the hot weather of June - but has become purer with the cooler weather.

During May I carried out a house to house visitation in Mainstone and Middle Bridge Street - inspecting 135 houses - a hundred of these derived their water supply from the South Hants Water Company's Service - Thirty-five from wells by pumps Fifty three had pail-closets - 25, water closets - 26 the old fashioned C.V.Cs - whilst 31 had closets projecting over one or other of the streams - as to drainage 98 houses were drained



into one of the streams - water from the roofs and pump-troughs alone running therein - except in the case of the 25 W.C.s - Thirteen houses had drains emptying into ditches, sometimes supplied with water, at others nearly dry - Seventeen drained into dead wells and seven houses appeared not to have any drains.

No marked cases of overcrowding were noted, and the instance of Diphtheria previously mentioned was the only case of infectious disease - unless it may have been Whooping-Cough. that happened throughout the year in the 135 families.

The number of pail-closet in the entire Urban district is only some half-dozen greater than that of last year. which then stood at 359.

The total number of houses using the S.H.W.C. service in the Urban District on December 31-1896 was 592 - being an increase of 23 during the year - There is generally too much line left in the water - in other respects it is remarkably pure - and is always at full pressure

The 41 deaths give an annual average death-rate of a little over  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ( $9.59$ ) per 1000 living - there were however 7 deaths in the Union Workhouse of Parishioners of the Urban district though only 3 entered the workhouse suffering from the disease of which they died - but if the whole number 7. be added to the Urban death it raises the number of death therein to 48 - and lift the death-rate from  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ( $9.59$ ) to  $11\frac{1}{4}$  ( $11.225$ ) per 1000 living.

The 116 Births - give an annual average birth-rate of a little over 27 ( $27.12$ ) per 1000 living.



Table No 1

Showing the cause of death under 1 year of age & between 1 year & 5 years					
Disease	under 1 year		1 year & under 5 years		
	M	F	M	F	Total
Whooping-Cough		3	1	2	6
Bronchitis		2	1		3
Premature Birth and Congenital Debility	1	2			3
Convulsions					
Total	1	7	2	3	13

Table No 2.

Showing the number of deaths and births in each month & Quarter of 1896								
Month	Deaths				Births			
	M	F	Total for the month	Total for the Quarter	M	F	Total for the month	Total for the Quarter
January	1	5	6	19	3	5	8	28
February	2	5	7		5	3	8	
March	4	2	6		6	6	12	
April	2	1	3	8	8	7	15	33
May	1	1	2		4	6	10	
June	2	1	3		4	4	8	
July	3	1	4	8	7	1	8	23
August	-	4	4		3	5	8	
September	-	-	-		2	5	7	
October	1	1	2	6	6	8	14	32
November	1	2	3		1	7	8	
December	1	-	1		6	4	10	
Total	18	23	41	41	55	61	116	116

I am

Gentlemen

Yours truly

Fred Duckell

M.D.



NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (See note 4 on back of sheet.) (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.								MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																						
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	(i)	1	2	3	4	FEVERS.					10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
									Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	*	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.	
Romney Urban	41	8	5	1	2	10	15	Under 5 5 upwds.			1										6				5	3	6	2		4	13
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# NOTES ON TABLES A AND B.

- NOTE 1. *Medical Officers of Health of "Combined Districts" must make a separate Return for the District of each District Council.*
2. *Medical Officers of Health acting for a portion only of the District of a District Council should write, in the heading of the Table, the designation of the Division for which they act.*
3. *The words "Urban," "Rural," or "Metropolitan" must be inserted in the appropriate space in the heading, according as the District is Urban or Rural, or is within the Metropolitan Area.*
4. *The "Localities" adopted for the purpose of these statistics should be areas of known population; such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships or wards.*

As stated at the head of the first column in each Table, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the deaths in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

5. *The deaths which have to be classified in this Table (A), and summed up in the horizontal line of "Totals," are the whole of those registered as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate, to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be. Details concerning the corrective figures, e.g., the institutions that have been considered, or the particular localities to which corrections apply, may appear in the text of the report or in supplementary tables.*

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.			
Area in Acres		9700	
Population (1891)		4276	
" (Estimated to middle of 1896)		4276	
Death Rates.	General	9.59	per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1896.
	Infant (under one year of age)	68.9	per 1,000 Births Registered.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

Harold Buckle Medical Officer of Health.

(Date) February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1897.







## NOTES ON TABLE **B.**

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

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NOTE 1. The present *Table B.* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. (a), *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to the local incidence of consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*